

March 1, 1988

LB 1038, 1193, 1197

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Seeing none, those in favor of the advancement of the bill please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 1193.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The bill is advanced. LB 1197.

CLERK: Mr. President, 1197, by Senator Withem. (Read title.) Introduced in January, referred to Education, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to that bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, 1197 is a bill that is not going to affect many people in our state. I got a letter from, turned out to be Senator Bernard-Stevens' district, from an individual concerned because their school district did not offer a kindergarten class. They thought it was in violation of some state law because every place else in the state operates kindergarten. In searching through the statutes we, in Nebraska, do not have a mandatory kindergarten statute, although we do have a constitutional requirement indicating that every young person in the state, every person in the state from ages 5 through 21 should have access to a free and appropriate education. It was the view of the Education Committee...my view and then the subsequent view of the Education Committee that the absence of a kindergarten class probably is even in violation of this constitutional requirement. It is utilized most...almost in every other state in the nation that there is only...we could only find one particular school district in the state that does not offer a kindergarten class, so we feel like this is more a clean-up in the statutes. So we are urging you to adopt this measure.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any discussion? If not, those in favor of the advancement of the bill please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the advancement of 1197, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 1197 is advanced. LB 1038.